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FIRE IN A SCHOOL.

Fire in the Grant school is charged to a "firebug." It is difficult to find a motive prompting any one to fire a building devoted to the education of our children.

Those who have investigated the fire are disposed to charge the crime to an immature mind, perhaps that of a small boy.

POLITICAL ACTION.

Labor is placing more and more dependence in political action. At St. Paul, Labor has just won another victory. In the recent city primary there William Mahoney, Labor candidate for mayor, won by a big vote over the present mayor. The candidate supported by the reactionaries was a poor third. In addition, four candidates for the city council, supported by labor, were the four highest among 25 candidates.

This is the second victory for the Working People's Nonpartisan Political League in Minnesota. The league now has 60,000 members. Its first victory was the election last summer of Oscar E. Keller to congress over old-line Republican and Democratic candidates.

Minnesota during the last two years has had less strike trouble than almost any other large industrial section of the country.

There may be some connection between the labor victories at the polls and the lessening of industrial warfare.

PLEASE ANSWER

A class of aliens, preparing for American citizenship at a night school, was required to answer these questions in an examination:

What is the constitution of the United States?
When and where was the constitution adopted?
What was the first amendment to the constitution?
How many amendments has the constitution?
Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?
How many votes in the electoral college?
If retention of your citizenship depended upon a perfect score, how many of these questions could you answer correctly offhand, Mr. American?

Still, it is conceivable that a man may be a 100 per cent American without making a 100 per cent grade on these questions. Most of these aliens will, in the end, forget most of the facts they are learning now, but it is enough that they retain the spirit of the institutions that we call American.

THE STRIKE IN OGDEN.

"Two weeks of the most orderly strike ever conducted in Ogden." That is the summing up of the walkout of the Switchmen who left their positions in the local yards.

The Switchmen are supposed to be made up of the most radical elements of the railroad unions, owing to the fact that a percentage are known as "boomers," or workers who move from one place to another, but, greatly to the surprise of those who looked for trouble, there has been not one overt act of wrongdoing.

A business man, commenting on the good record of the strikers, said:

"I attribute this remarkable showing, first, to the intelligent, common sense of the men involved, who recognize that, at no time in the past, has any body of union men gained anything by unlawful methods; and, second, I see in this pleasing situation the direct benefits of prohibition. On the day the men struck, had the saloons been open, what would have followed? Strong drink inflames the minds of men of certain temperament, and a few bottles of liquor would have brought on a mob spirit. Drink has done that in the past and, it is not unfair to say, a repetition would have occurred."

If the present strike ends unfavorable to the men, the railroad officials have a great opportunity in dealing with the situation, to show that generous treatment which is devoid of revenge or a desire to place the heavy heel of mastery on men who have families dependent on them.

In these great industrial battles, men enter into them not to solely advance themselves, but to better the workers as a whole. Often they are too insistent, and at times the unreasonable is demanded by them, but always the thought uppermost in the minds of the honest union man is protection against the greed and rapacity of the powerful.

Whenever a worker is fighting for that which he firmly considers to be the welfare of his kind, he must be treated with consideration, even though he be laboring under a false conception of his rights.

When both sides to these labor disputes begin to fully realize that neither must pursue a policy of destruction, then a better understanding will pervade the industrial world.

WORKING ON A BIG PROBLEM.

Officers of the American Academy of Political and Social Science have decided to devote the annual meeting in May to a discussion of the different aspects of industrial stability.

In view of the difficult problems confronting the country at the present time, the academy feels that a most important national service can be performed by bringing together the leading thinkers and men of broad political experience to discuss the different aspects of this question. There will be six sessions, to be held in Philadelphia on Friday and Saturday, May 7 and 8, each session to be devoted to some important aspect of the general topic.

The officers of the academy feel the topic to be discussed is one of such great importance to the country at the present time, that they are anxious to have the various cities of the union represented. This meeting will partake of the nature of a national conference, as there will be delegates from the different states of the union, chambers of commerce, boards of trade, labor, industrial and other organizations.

The mayors of many cities, including Ogden, have been invited to appoint delegates, and Mayor Francis is to name three representatives.

At this time the one big question is the stabilizing of industry. With prices soaring out of sight and wages an unknown quantity because of the vast uncertainties, business of every kind is going along nervously, and there is no small degree of apprehension as to what tomorrow will bring forth. If some understanding could be reached by which prices of goods and wages would remain stationary for six months, much of the present unrest might be eliminated. It is with this in mind, that the meeting of social science society is to be held in Philadelphia. At the head of this organization are a number of the brightest educators and writers in the United States, including Carl Kelsey of the University of Pennsylvania, Chas. W. Dabney, of the University of Cincinnati, David P. Barrows, University of California, and L. S. Rowe, University of Pennsylvania.

It is well that our best students of economics are to give this perplexing problem their best thought, with the aid of men drawn from every part of the country.

Rippling Rhymes

By WALT MASON.

The Spring Cold.

I have a cold; it should be hard to be a cheerful sunshine bard. I'd like to croak about despair, and rear on my hind limbs and swear; but habit is a wondrous thing, and so I dance around and sing. My head is clogged, my eyes are sore, and every breath sounds like a snore; I'm full of fever, and my brow feels like an old Dutch oven now, and men would say I had excuse, if I should rant and raise the deuce. But habit has me in its grip, and so I sound my cheerful yip. For years I've piled this sunshine stunt, and kept a smiling face in front, and now, when I would make lament, I cannot do it worth a cent. I'm feeling punk and tough as sin, but every groan ends in a grin. And this, my friends, methinks should teach, that wholesome habit is a peach. I'm glad I learned when I was young to leave the doleful dirge unsung, and chant glad ditties, span and spick, till some one hit me with a brick, to push gay ballads through my beard, until the peelers interfered.

LITTLE BENNY'S Note Book

By LEE PAPE

Pop was reading the spouting page last night and I was getting ready to think about doing my lessons, and I sed, G, pop, gosh.

Is that so? sed pop keeping on reading.

When I grow up and go to college will I haff to study latin? I sed.

Most assuredly, sed pop.

Aw G, pop, I sed, wat goods latin? and pop sed, The city Romans used to speak latin as florently as we speak English.

Well gosh, pop, wat good did it do them? I sed.

It eased their minds, I supposed, sed pop. And hee keep on reading, the spouting page, and pritty soon I sed, Well G, pop, heck, I don't want to speak latin, I can ease my mind without that, pop.

All rite, those that don't like the sound of latin can study Greek, sed pop, and I sed, Is that any easier, pop?

Harder, you haff to understand music to read Greek printing, sed pop, and I sed, Aw G, pop, that's farse, I don't want to, pop?

How do you expect me to read this paper? sed pop. Meaning with me talking, and after a while I sed, Pop?

Wat, wat? sed pop, and I sed, If I study latin when I go to college will you give me a dime for the movies tomorrow afternoon?

No, but I'll give you a couple of swift smacks with my slipper if I hear another word out of you, sed pop.

Wich he dident.

Urged to Americanize Foreigners Coming in

WASHINGTON, April 20.—Daughters of the American Revolution, opening the 29th annual continental congress yesterday, were urged to put forth greater effort than ever to spread Americanization among foreigners coming to America.

Mrs. George Thatcher Gurnsey, of Kansas, retiring president general denounced foreigners who accept American advantages without living up to American ideals, and called on the daughters to help arouse a genuine national spirit.

Secretary Colby, in an address, declared there was a limit to which a nation might assimilate immigration. He urged that the organization carry to the stream of entering aliens the traditions of America.

General Pershing in response to an introduction to the daughters, warmly supported their determination "to Americanize those aliens who have remained aloof from our institutions."

Propose U. S. Methods for New Virgin Islands

WASHINGTON, April 20.—Plans for Americanizing and aiding the Virgin Islands were recommended to congress by the joint commission which visited the new American possessions. Substitution of a scale of code laws, "based on American principles and ideals," for the Danish code and of an American currency system for that in use, were among recommendations. The commission was headed by Senator Kenyon, Republican, of Iowa, and Representative Townner, Republican of Iowa.

No change in the naval administration is superseded and that the local legislative councils of St. Thomas and St. Croix, should be retained. Reform in the tax system also was advised.

Housing Is Perplexing Problem for Cities

CINCINNATI, O., April 20.—Housing is one of the most perplexing and difficult problems now confronting cities, according to speakers at the opening of the annual convention of the National Conference of City Planning. Among other problems are zoning, street improvements and financing.

Delegates, city planners and city officials from more than fifty cities in the United States and Canada are present.

A deposit of coal estimated to contain about 40,000,000 tons of good quality fuel has been discovered at La Union in Chile.

Sale of Silks



Before this sale was announced we made doubly sure we had done all in our power to bring the season's most fashionable fabrics before you at the lowest possible prices.

To us, it seems, never before have American designers and manufacturers produced such pretty weaves, patterns and colorings; never before have American brains and American labor co-operated so extensively and so well; and never before has this store been able to show a collection so complete, so comprehensive and so full of suggestions.

36-inch Chiffon Taffetas; full range of evening shades. Regular \$3.50 quality. Sale price..... \$2.48
36-inch Chiffon Taffeta; full range of dark colors for street wear. Regular \$4.00 quality. Sale price..... \$2.69
36-inch Satin Stripes and Plaid Silks; very much in demand for skirts and waists. Regular \$3.50. Sale Price..... \$2.48
40-inch heavy Crepe de Chine; complete assortment of all wanted shades. Regular \$5.00 values. Sale price..... \$3.00
36-inch heavy Lustrous Imperial Satin, very much in demand for sport wear; in all wanted colors. Regular \$7.00 values. Sale price..... \$4.50
36-inch all silk Pongee and Shantung in natural, blue bird, pink, navy, tan, gray and purple. \$4.50 values. Sale price..... \$2.95
36-inch Satin Stripes, just right for sport wear. Regular \$2.50 values. Sale price..... \$1.69

Here are Pretty Wash Fabrics Adaptable for Summer Apparel

Ever so many new wash fabrics, just unpacked from their original casings, will make their debut here tomorrow, introducing the latest fascinating feature weaves and colorings which will compel attention from home-sewers contemplating a new frock, blouse, etc.

BURTS'

OWEN SHOWS JUST WHO GETS COIN YOU PAY FOR PLACE TO LIVE IN

By ROBERT L. OWEN,
U. S. Senator from Oklahoma; Author of the Federal Reserve Banking Act; President National Popular Government League.

The housing question is rapidly becoming one of the most serious problems of our national life. Already the dangerous congestion and overcrowding which has disturbed for years and now threatens the stability of society in Europe, is showing its menacing head in America.

Of course the housing and home question has at bottom the land question. But in this article, let us consider the common man's problem of building a house in the face of modern monopoly and profiteering.

The cost of even a humble home is now prohibitive to the average worker and very difficult for the small business and professional man.

A house that used to cost three thousand dollars now costs from six thousand to eight thousand dollars. What or who is to blame? Is this due to natural law of supply and demand, operating under war and post-war conditions? Or is there excessive and unreasonable profiteering going on?

The political party which fails to meet this issue, to discuss it frankly and fully with a view to its solution, which fails to offer a reasonable remedy is not entitled to the confidence of the people.

In an article on clothing I drew some facts from a special treasury report, showing the profits of certain American corporations in the year 1917 from the income and excess profits tax record. This remarkable document, practically secret as far as the general public is concerned, is referred to among those who know it at Washington as "Senate Document No. 254."

There are several thousand companies listed in the industries which affect the cost of building and furnishing a home. Seeking the net

profits on capital stock after all government taxes have been paid, after allowing for every charge, for depreciation, for loss, for expenditure and the cost of advertising, here is what I found:

A sawmill with a capital of one million dollars made a profit of \$244,773.

A planing mill of \$35,000 capital with a profit of \$17,000, equal to 50 per cent.

A brick plant of \$100,000 capital, with a profit of \$38,000, or 38 per cent.

A cement factory of \$1,000,000 capital, and a profit of \$248,000, equal to 24 per cent.

A contractor with a capital of \$150,000 made \$85,000, or a profit of 57 per cent.

A paint manufacturer with a capital of \$975,000 made a profit of \$641,000, equal to 66 per cent.

A furniture factory, with a capital of \$394,000, with a profit of \$102,000, equal to 26 per cent.

There are hundreds of companies which made in this year, 1917, with the country at war, three, four and five dollars for every dollar invested after all taxes had been paid.

Furthermore, these profits were exceeded in the years 1915 and 1919 in very many cases.

At the beginning of this year, 1920, we were subjected to a sudden rise in the general prices of lumber of 50 per cent. With some forms of lumber the price was raised much higher, for example, white quartered oak was raised from \$97 to \$315 per thousand feet.

The bureau of forestry, in response to a resolution introduced by Senator Capper of Kansas, is now making an investigation of this matter. It will probably contain sensational revelations, as these violent increases cannot be due to the normal law of supply and demand.

Often high costs complained of are attributed to labor. Selecting Chicago as an extreme ex-

ample I applied to the federal bureau of labor statistics for the facts as to labor cost. I was informed that the average wage paid to workers in nine of the main trades in the building industry, including both skilled and unskilled labor, was 62 cents per hour in July, 1914. In July, 1919, it was 93 cents per hour, average, or an advance of 44 per cent.

But during that period the wholesale prices of building materials had advanced an average of 200 per cent.

It is fair to the worker to remember that in this period his living costs had increased around 100 per cent, so that he was in no wise better off financially, except that employment since 1914 has been and continues more steady.

Both capital and labor must severally receive a fair and just reward for their services, but the rights of the public, and this involves every man who labors or who invests capital, must be considered and protected in a government based upon justice and wisdom.

REPUBLICAN MEETING

I. O. O. F. Hall, Salt Lake City,
April 22, 8:30 p. m.

Address to Republican Clubs of Salt Lake by
P. L. TURNER, on

"Lincoln Laid the Foundation and Cornerstone of the Republican Party in 1861"
All are cordially invited to attend
Rates over Bamberger line to Salt Lake, round trip for party of 10, \$1.50; party of 25, \$1.10, plus war tax.

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